

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims

1 – 40. (CANCELLED)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for restricting communication in a wireless communication device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a phone number into the wireless communication device in an attempt to make a phone call;

~~utilizing a controller to determine~~ determining a geographic characteristic of the received phone number;

receiving a current global positioning system (GPS) location from a GPS functional device contained within the wireless communication device;

determining a current physical location of the wireless communication device utilizing the current GPS location;

accessing a list stored in memory of the wireless communication device, the list comprising authorized and unauthorized geographic characteristics;

processing said geographic characteristic of the received phone number, said list, and said current physical location of the wireless communication device to determine if placing a call to said received number would accrue a charge; and

~~utilizing a controller in the wireless communication device to determine if the current physical location matches at least one of a plurality of authorized physical locations stored in a memory of the wireless communication device;~~

~~utilizing a controller to determine if at least a portion of the geographic characteristic of the received phone number matches at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory;~~

~~utilizing a controller to determine if a parameter associated with the geographic characteristic stored in the memory indicates that the geographic characteristic of the received phone number is an approved geographic characteristic, the parameter being independent of the physical location of the wireless communication device; and~~

~~permitting one of a placement of a phone call to the received phone number only if placing a call to said received number would not accrue a charge. and a receipt of the phone call from the received phone number only if the current physical location matches at least one of the plurality of authorized physical locations and if at least a portion of the geographic characteristic of the received phone number matches at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory and if the geographic characteristic of the received phone number is an approved geographic characteristic.~~

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one geographic characteristic is an area code, and at least the a portion of geographic characteristic of the received phone number is an area code.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 41, wherein the received phone number is received from a user interface of the wireless communication device.

44. (CANCELLED)

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 41, ~~wherein at least one of a plurality of unauthorized geographic characteristic is stored in the memory, further comprising~~ blocking ~~one of the~~ placement of the phone call ~~to~~ and the receipt of the phone call based on the received phone number if at least the portion of the geographic characteristic of the received phone number matches at least one of the plurality of unauthorized geographic characteristics ~~characteristic~~ and the current physical location of the wireless communication device matches a predetermined physical location.

46. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A wireless communication device, comprising:

- a memory for storing a list comprising authorized and unauthorized geographic characteristics ~~at least one area code, a location independent parameter associated with the at least one area code, and at least one of a plurality of authorized location;~~
- a user interface for inputting an outgoing number in an attempt to make a phone call ~~into~~ from the wireless communication device, the outgoing number having an outgoing area code;
- ~~a wireless interface circuit for receiving an incoming phone number corresponding to an incoming call to the wireless communication device, the incoming phone number having an incoming area code;~~
- a global positioning system (GPS) device for determining a current physical location of the wireless communication device;
- a controller connected to the memory, the user interface, ~~the wireless interface circuit~~ and the GPS device, the controller configured to determine a geographic characteristic including ~~a location parameter associated with the outgoing area code of~~

~~the inputted outgoing number, the controller configured to determine if at least a portion of the location parameter associated with the inputted outgoing number matches at least a portion of the location independent parameter associated with the at least one area code stored in memory, to receive the current physical location from the GPS device, and~~ access the list comprising authorized and unauthorized geographic characteristics stored in the memory, process the geographic characteristic of the received phone number, the current physical location and the list comprising authorized and unauthorized geographic characteristics to determine if placing a call to said received number would accrue a charge, wherein the controller is further configured to permit placement of a phone call to the inputted outgoing number only if placing a call to said inputted outgoing number would not accrue a charge.

~~to allow one of a placement of an outgoing call to the outgoing number and receipt of the incoming call if~~

~~at least one of the plurality of authorized location matches the current physical location and only if a portion of the of the location independent parameter associated with the at least one area code stored in memory matches one of the incoming area code and at least a portion of the location parameter associated with the outgoing area code of the received outgoing number, and~~

~~the location independent parameter associated with the at least one area code indicates that the at least one area code is an authorized area code.~~

47. (CANCELLED)

48. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The wireless communication device of claim 46, wherein at least one of a plurality of unauthorized area code is stored in the memory; and wherein the controller blocks ~~one of the outgoing call and the incoming call~~ if the at least one of the plurality of unauthorized area code matches ~~one of the incoming area code and the outgoing~~ the area code of the inputted outgoing number and the current physical location of the wireless communication device matches a predetermined physical location.

49. – 54. (CANCELLED)

55. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 41, wherein the current GPS location is an absolute GPS position.

56. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 41, wherein the current GPS location is a relative GPS position.

57. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 41, wherein the at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory comprises local toll charges.

58. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 41, wherein the at least one geographic characteristic stored in the memory comprises long distance charges.